

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/688,788

Examiner

HUNG T. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

ISHII, HIROTAKE

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/29/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-10 & 13-14 [renumbered as 1-4].
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 9-10 & 13-14 are allowed [ renumbered as 1-4 ].
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

There is no prior art that shows claim 9 recites a car driving assistance apparatus for: rendering an image in front of a car, based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an obstacle in front of the car, and executing control to selectively response to the obstacle, wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus, and wherein, if an obstacle is detected, the frame rate is increased.

In claim 10 claims a car driving assistance apparatus for:  
imaging an image inside a cabin of a car,  
based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and based on the determining, executing control for at least one of burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation of an air conditioner, wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

In claim 13 requires a car driving assistance apparatus for: rendering an image in front of a car, based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an obstacle in front of the car, and executing control to selectively response to the obstacle, wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus, and wherein the area designation means designates the area in the imaging means associated with a speed of the car.

In claim 14 claims the system is a car-mounted imaging apparatus comprising:  
a car driving assistance apparatus for: imaging an image inside a cabin of a car, based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and based on the determining, executing control for at least one of burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation of an air conditioner, wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".


**Conclusion**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2982. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Hofsass, Jeffery can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

**HUNG NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

  
Examiner: Hung T. Nguyen

Date: Oct. 19, 2005